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February 23 2009 Meeting Minutes

Arlington Human Rights Commission Minutes – Final February 23, 2009

Present: Sheri Baron, Marliisa Briggett, Christine Carney, Vice Chair Vita Cohen, Jorge Loayza, Chair Nick Minton, Judson Pierce, Nancy Rhoads, Marlene Schultz, Bill Shea, Nancy Sweeney

Absent: Stacy Davison

Open Forum – Lt. Robert Bongiorno introduced Officer James Smith, who has been appointed the Town Outreach officer. Officer Smith spoke in detail of his new responsibilities, projects and goals. His office is at the Senior Center and he looks forward to working with the AHRC and having interaction with the schools, housing and many groups within the town. Chair Minton and other commissioners welcomed him and look forward to working with him. He will be attending our monthly meetings.

Review of January Minutes – Commissioner Shea motioned to accept the January Minutes as is - motion seconded by Commissioner Sweeney – there were two abstentions.

Race and Place Dialogue Series Update – Commissioner Shea spoke with a real estate broker regarding race and finance matters for home buyers and reported that these issues do not appear to be a problem in Arlington. Commissioners expressed more concern with renting than buying.

Networks and Coalitions –

ACT – No further meetings are scheduled at this time

MAHRC – nothing to report this month

MCAD – no report this month

Incidents and Complaints –

Commissioner Shea will continue to work with the APD regarding incidents and complaints. Commissioner Baron distributed a copy of their planned presentation.

Budget – The AHRC sub-committee will meet with the Finance Committee on March 9th to discuss the budget for 2010. Commissioner Baron distributed a copy of their planned presentation.

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Subcommittee Reports –

Disabilities Dialogue – The March 4th dialogue expenses will be shared with the Arlington Disabilities Commission. A postcard mailing has been completed; a press release has been forwarded to the Arlington Advocate; commissioners will provide set up and refreshments.

Holocaust Dialogue – Commissioners Baron and Sweeney are working on this event for May

Immigration Dialogue – September – tabled

Date/Violence Dialogue – October – tabled

Schools – Chair Minton will try to meet with Supt. Kathy Bodie.

Policies/Procedures – no report

Rapid Response – mail list requested for all commissioners. Vice Chair Cohen will work on a letter requesting updated information.

Other Business –

Commissioners Briggett and Cohen will work on the **APD Crash Report** for next meeting.

Chair Minton read thank you note from MLK Event committee.

Commissioner Rhoads will look into Brackett School custodian bill.

Chair Minton moved to adjourn. Commissioner Sweeney seconded. The meeting was concluded.

Submitted by:

Marylynn Carnell

Staff Assistant